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and fruitfulness. The author finds the limits of religious thought in the essential nature and circumscription of man's intellectual faculties. Yet man may receive on authority, and may thus know, truths which it is beyond his power either to discover or to verify. Such truths are among his needs as a dependent, responsible, and immortal being. Here, then, lies the open field for an authenticated Divine revelation on the one hand, and for implicit faith on the other. With the author's general reasoning we coincide in full, while as to some of the contents of the revelation which in common with him we receive as Divine, we are constrained to differ from him. More than a third part of the volume is made up of illustrative and corroborative extracts from writers, ancient and modern, of widely varying schools in philosophy and religion; and these, many of them from books not easily accessible, add a high, though a secondary, value to the work.

- 34.—1. *The Pioneers; or, The Sources of the Susquehanna. A Descriptive Tale.*
2. *The Last of the Mohicans. A Narrative of 1757.*
3. *The Red Rover. A Tale.*
4. *The Spy. A Tale of the Neutral Ground.*
5. *Wyandotte, or the Huttied Knoll. A Tale.*

By J. FENIMORE COOPER. Illustrated from Drawings by F. O. C. DARLEY. New York: W. A. Townsend & Co. 1859. 12mo.

WE believe the present a peculiarly favorable moment for the issue of a new edition of Cooper's novels. It is an undoubted fact that, on their first appearance, they had even a wider popularity in England than in the United States. They related to times the memory of which was still fresh, the events still recent, and to scenes still familiar. The crowded incidents of the last quarter of a century, and the revolutions that have transformed the face of our country, have already thrown the materials of these tales into a semi-mythical background, and given them the prestige of antiquity, while the genius which alone confers literary immortality could never before have been appreciated as it now is. The edition, of which we have five volumes before us, is more than beautiful,—it is magnificent, splendid, worthy of any superlative epithet that may be employed to characterize it. The illustrations are numerous, appropriate, and in the artist's very best style, than which, it is well known, nothing can be better. We procured for our present number an elaborate article on Cooper, in order to second to the utmost of our ability the munificent enterprise of the publishers. That article

circumstances beyond our control have compelled us to lay over for the opening paper in our next number. Meanwhile, we trust that the appearance of Cooper's novels in so attractive a form, will renew in the risen, and awaken in the rising generation, familiar converse with one who was almost the pioneer among American authors worthy of the name, and to whom our infant literature has been more largely indebted than to any other writer in any department for its Transatlantic reputation.

35.—*Thoughts on Educational Topics and Institutions.* By GEORGE S. BOUTWELL. Boston: Phillips, Sampson, & Co. 1859. 12mo. pp. 365.

THIS volume comes to hand just as we are sending our last sheets to the press, else we should not content ourselves with the cursory notice with which we welcome its appearance. It is a collection of Governor Boutwell's educational addresses. His style is vigorous and racy. His theories are practical, not in the lower sense of satisfying the public indolence, but as presenting the highest attainable standard. He constantly recognizes Christianity as the only basis of a sound and worthy education, and the diffusion of knowledge as the sole safeguard of liberty, order, and individual and social well-being. Our State may well be congratulated on the choice of so wise and energetic a head for her educational department, while the public are constrained to confess that even from the chief magistracy its late incumbent has passed into an office of higher significance, larger influence, and more abundant usefulness.